

Get to know our City-County Elected official: Counselor Dan Boots.

Who are you? Could you tell us about yourself?

My name is Dan Boots, and I was born and raised in central Indiana in Hamilton/Marion Counties - Purdue Undergrad/IU Law. Married Valerie Young in 1988 and have four adult children (ages 26-32) and one new grandbaby (3 mos.!). We've lived in Marion County in the D3 community for 35+ years. Professionally, I've practiced intellectual property (IP) law my entire career, currently practicing with Dentons Bingham Greenebaum since 1997.

What is your top priority for the first six months in the office, and why?

Infrastructure – because at this time of year, the roads are at their worst, and the Clear Path INDOT project exacerbates the issues. My presence and experience on the Public Works Committee are valuable tools for pursuing those issues. I am also keenly interested in the inaugural Artificial Intelligence (AI) Commission that will be launched this first quarter of 2024. Close seconds include the ongoing development of the Nickel Plate Trail (NPT) and the revitalization of the Castleton area. I would gladly discuss any issue with you - my email is dan.boots@indy.gov.

What areas of public policy are you personally passionate about?

I feel blessed in my second term that my new committee assignments align quite squarely with my public policy priorities:

- Public Safety & Criminal Justice
- Public Works
- Parks & Recreation
- Education
- Administration & Finance
- Rules & Public Policy

Who do you look up to? Whose example would you like to follow, and why?

The two (2) groups of persons I look up to mostly are, first, our founding fathers (setting aside the slavery issues for the moment) for the challenges they faced when developing and setting forth the principles that formed the foundation of our Democracy, which has lasted for over 250 years. Second, I greatly admire the civil rights activists of the 1960s, particularly Dr. Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy, whose lives were cut far too short. They taught us that all people are created equal, that we must live with compassion and love for others, and that all people deserve stable housing, healthy food, quality education, fulfilling employment, and, if necessary, a second chance.